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Thucydides is dismissed (p. 139) ("there is nothing popular about his sober and philosophic view of life"). So are Aristophanes, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Plato. Who then can be saved? Herodotus and Pindar—"a commonplace intellect" (p. 146)! Herodotus writes history, not to glorify a nation (as most recent writers on Herodotus hold), but to tell stories (p. 150). Theocritus' nature-poetry is "destitute . . . of all virility and human interest" (p. 172).

None the less, Mr. Livingstone has given us a very readable and suggestive book and one which will help every thoughtful reader toward an intelligent understanding of the great forces of Hellenism.

LOUIS E. LORD

OBERLIN COLLEGE

The Love of Nature among the Romans during the Later Decades of the Republic and the First Century of the Empire. By SIR ARCHIBALD GEIKIE. London: John Murray, 1912.

A book on *The Love of Nature among the Romans*, written by the distinguished Scotch geologist, Sir Archibald Geikie, could hardly fail to be interesting reading for a student of Latin literature. Geikie's essays are the pleasant, reminiscent jottings of a Scotch gentleman, re-reading and re-translating his classics at seventy-seven, and through their discursive and delightful style appear the keen observations of the trained eye of the geologist who has made textbooks, directed surveys, and written the history of Scotland's topography.

As though an apology were needed for entering a field not his own, Geikie in a frank preface explains that having been led by Professor Butcher to accept the presidency of the Classical Association in 1911, he decided to deliver his president's address on a subject which seemed in some measure to combine the classical interests of the members with his own deep love of Nature. Then the fascination of the theme lead him on to further work "in a field whereon he had perhaps somewhat rashly trespassed." He modestly disclaims "any pretension to classical scholarship" for his book and continues: "The classical scholar who may look over its pages will probably find in them nothing with which he is not already familiar, though it may not have occurred to him to collect and compare the scattered passages in Latin authors which reveal how far and in what way these writers were influenced by the features of the external world. To the ordinary reader, however, it may, I hope, be of some interest to see the familiar aspects of Nature as they appeared to Roman eyes and appealed to Roman hearts nineteen hundred years ago."

Such modest frankness disarms the criticisms of "the classical scholar" who may regret that in the hint of bibliography on the feeling for Nature among the Romans no mention is made of Biese's suggestive work, Schiller's contested dicta, and the recent theses on limited phases of the subject; who is

surprised again by the definite location of the Bandusian spring as the source of the Digentia, and who wonders why space is given to sketches of the familiar facts of the lives of Vergil and Horace. But to reproach Sir Archibald Geikie for not knowing Eduard Voss's Program on *Die Natur in der Dichtung des Horaz* or Franz Hawrlant's *Horaz als Freund der Natur nach seinen Gedichten* would be to fail entirely in appreciation of the object and the result of his studies.

And "the classical scholar" as well as "the ordinary reader" is sure to receive pleasure from the wealth of suggestion in the varied chapters: the Saturnian land and its people; country and town; the *divini gloria ruris*—Lucretius, Vergil, Horace; rural scenes and the elegiac poets; flowers in Roman life; Roman gardens; trees and woodlands; flowers and foliage in Roman art; the animal world in Roman life; day and night; the seasons; springs, rivers, and lakes; mountains; the seashores; the open sea; the underworld.

Geikie's own trained faculties of observation give him the power of careful and exact discrimination between the varied phases of feeling for Nature which appear in the different poets, for example in Vergil, Tibullus, and Ovid. And that clear and simple literary style which is said to characterize his biographies of Murchison and Ramsay and his Romanes lectures on *Types of Scenery and Their Influence on Literature* makes his chapters delightfully readable and his translations often charming.

One closes the volume feeling that here the hereditary clash between science and the classics is silenced, and one pictures Sir Archibald Geikie as Horace did Tibullus:

. . . . tacitum silvas inter reptare salubris,
Curantem quicquid dignum sapiente bonoque est.

ELIZABETH HAZELTON HAIGHT

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Annals of Caesar: A Critical Biography. By E. G. SIHLER. New York: G. E. Stechert & Co., 1911. Pp. ix+330. \$1.75.

C. Julius Caesar: sein Leben nach den Quellen. By E. G. SIHLER. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1912. Pp. vii+274. M. 6, bound M. 8.

The author set himself the task of writing a critical biography of Caesar from the original sources, uninfluenced by either modern theories or any emotional feeling of his own toward his subject. He tells us that the book originated in his lectures to his graduate students and is published primarily for the use of teachers and students. Obviously the author's success is to be judged in the light of his avowed purposes. The general reader may be repelled by some idiosyncrasies of style, by the annalistic plan of the book, and above all by the author's failure to portray a living Caesar; but if the author has studied the ancient sources with thoroughness, impartiality, and sound